

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 to 19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) A support element for mutual support of a fuel injector (1) in a valve seat of a cylinder head of an internal combustion engine, and of the fuel injector (1) against a fuel distributor (2), the support element (3) comprising a clamp (8) and clips (4) provided thereon, as well as a bracket (5), wherein the fuel injector (1) protrudes through a hole (11) therein; wherein an edge (9) of the clamp (8) rests circumferentially against one of the fuel injector (1) and the fuel distributor (2).

21. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the bracket (5) rests against the fuel distributor (2) via a planar surface.

22. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the clips (4) rest against the fuel distributor (2).

Claim 23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the bracket (5) rests against the fuel injector (1) via a planar surface.

25. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 24, wherein the clips (4) rest against the fuel injector (1).

Claim 26. (Canceled).

27. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the bracket (5) is connected to the clamp (8) via a projection (6).

28. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 27, wherein the bracket (5) on the projection (6) is curved radially inwards.

29. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the bracket (5) is curved.

30. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the number of clips (4) is at least two.

31. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the clamp (8) has a slit in the area of an electrical lead (7) of the fuel injector (1).

32. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the support element (3) has a second bracket (12).

33. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 32, wherein, in relation to the clamp (8), the second bracket (12) is arranged symmetrically thereon.

34. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 32, wherein the second bracket (12) is open.

35. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 32, wherein the bracket (5) has the same shape as the second bracket (12).

36. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the clamp (8) is manufactured by stamping and bending spring steel.

37. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the support element (3) has a rectangular or square cross section.

38. (Previously Presented) The support element according to Claim 20, wherein the fuel injector (1) is flexibly braced against the fuel distributor (2) via the support element (3).